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Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Original) A method of inhibiting an invasive and/or non-invasive infection of Gram-positive pathogenic bacteria in a mammalian subject, comprising administering to said subject an inhibitory effective amount of an isolated and purified peptide or of a composition comprising the same, which peptide comprises an amino acid sequence substantially homologous to the amino acid sequence encoded by the SilCR ORF of the *sil* locus at position 2985 to 2863 of the complementary strand of the genomic sequence of Group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) bacteria specified in GenBank accession number AF493605 or any functional fragment, analog or derivative thereof.
11. (Original) A method of preventing and/or treating a Gram-positive bacteria invasive infection related pathologic disorder comprising administering to a mammalian subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective

amount of an isolated and purified peptide or of a composition comprising the same, which peptide comprises an amino acid sequence substantially homologous to the amino acid sequence encoded by the *SilCR* ORF of the *sil* locus at position 2985 to 2863 of the complementary strand of the genomic sequence of Group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) bacteria specified in GenBank accession number AF493605 or any functional fragment, analog or derivative thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ claim 10 and ~~11~~, wherein said peptide comprises an amino acid sequence substantially as denoted by SEQ ID NO: 32 or any functional fragment, analog or derivative thereof.
13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein said Gram-positive bacteria is *Streptococcus* sp. selected from the group consisting of Group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) bacteria, Group B *Streptococcus* bacteria and Group B *Streptococcus* bacteria.
14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said peptide ~~is capable of inhibiting~~ inhibits the spreading of GAS bacteria and/or tissue necrosis and/or lethal effect caused by said bacteria.
15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein said invasive infection leads to any one of soft tissue infection, bacteremia, septicemia, toxic shock syndrome (TSS) and necrotizing fasciitis (NF) and the non-invasive infection leads to any one of rheumatic fever and acute glomerulonephritis.
16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein said GAS bacteria is any one of *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Staphylococcus aureus*

and oral *Streptococci*.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said GAS bacteria is a virulent strain of *Streptococcus pyogenes*.
18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said peptide ~~or any fragment, analog or derivatives thereof~~ is in the form of a dimer, a multimer or in a constrained conformation.
19. (Original) The method according to claim 18, wherein said peptide is conformationally constrained by internal bridges, short-range cyclization, extension or other chemical modification.
20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein said GAS invasive infection related pathologic disorder is ~~any~~ one of soft tissue infection, bacteremia, septicemia, toxic shock syndrome (TSS) and necrotizing fasciitis (NF), and the non-invasive infection leads to any one of rheumatic fever and acute glomerulonephritis.
21. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ claim 10 to 20, wherein ~~the effective amount of~~ said peptide or ~~of a~~ composition comprising the same is administered to said subject prior to potential exposure to said pathogenic bacteria.
22. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ claim 10 to 20, wherein ~~the effective amount of~~ said peptide or ~~of a~~ composition comprising the same is administered to said subject in ~~any one of~~ a single dose ~~and~~ or multiple doses.
23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein ~~the effective amount of~~ said peptide or ~~of a~~

composition comprising the same is administered to said subject by ~~any one of~~ a single route ~~and~~ or by at least two different routes of administration.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein ~~the effective amount of~~ said peptide or ~~of a~~ composition comprising the same is administered to said subject by at least one route selected from oral, intravenous, parenteral, transdermal, subcutaneous, intravaginal, intranasal, mucosal, sublingual, topical and rectal administration and any combinations thereof.
25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein ~~the effective amount of~~ said peptide or ~~of a~~ composition comprising the same is administered to said subject subcutaneously.
26. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~any one of~~ ~~claims~~ claim 10 ~~to 19~~, wherein an effective amount of said peptide is between 0.5µg/kg to 100mg/kg of body weight.
27. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein an effective amount of said peptide is between 10µg/kg to 10mg/kg of body weight.
28. (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein an effective amount of said peptide is between 300µg/kg to 5mg/kg.
29. (Cancelled)
30. (Currently Amended) A method of disinfecting an environment and/or preventing infection caused by Gram-positive bacteria, comprising the step of applying a sufficient amount of an isolated and purified peptide or of a composition comprising the same, onto a surface of any one of medical equipment, medical devices and

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disposables, which peptide comprises an amino acid sequence substantially homologous to the amino acid sequence encoded by the SilCR ORF of the *sil* locus at position 2985 to 2863 of the complementary strand of the genomic sequence of Group A *Streptococcus* (GAS) bacteria specified in GenBank accession number ~~AF493605~~ AF493605 or any functional fragment, analog or derivative thereof.

31-62. (Cancelled)